THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The award of the Arbitrator has not been implemented by the State Farms Corporation of India as it is not considered practicable to implement it in its present form.

However the management of State Farms Corporation of India is making all possible efforts to arrive at a negotiated settlement with the concerned labour unions.

Agitation by Employees of Durgapur Steel Plant

1651. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALVIYA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the employees of the Durgapur Steel Plant, the Indian Iron and Steel Company and those who are working in their Calcutta Offices are agitating in support of their demands;

(b) if so, what are their demands; and

(c) what steps Government are taking in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) to (c) A sit-in-demonstration (Dharna) was staged on 23-7-86 by some of the employees of India Iron & Steel Company (IISCO), Burnpur Durgapur Steel Plant, Alloy Steel Plant, Durgapur at these plants and at their Calcutta offices.

The demands made by these employees and the latest position thereof are given in the Annexure.

[*See* Appendix CXXXIX, Annexure No. 94].

Settlement of Crop Insurance Claims in Saurashtra, Gujarat

1652. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the farmers of Saurashtra region of Gujarat are facing difficulty in getting their claims under crop insurance scheme ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the farmers of Amreli District had recently resorted to agitation for settlement of their claims under the crop insurance scheme and yet the claims remain unsettled ;

(c) the details of the paid and unpaid claims so far under crop insurance scheme in Saurashtra region ;

(d) the reasons for the delay in settlement of the claims and for the pending claims ; and

(e) whether the delay in prompt settlement of claims would adversely effect prospects of crop-insurance business, if so, what remedial measures are proposed to be taken by Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) to (d) The claims amounting to Rs. 65.64 crore were intimated to the General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC) with respect to the seven districts of Saurashtra region in Gujarat for Kaharif 1985 season. On scrutiny, claims of the order of Rs. 20 crores were found to be inadmissible. Out of the balance Rs. 45.64 crore claims amounting to Rs. 42.51 crore have since been paid leaving a balance of Rs. 3.13 crore which will be paid shortly. As reported by Government of Gujarat in Amreli district there was agitation due to delay in settlement of claims. However, the admissible